

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider amendments to the Council's Constitution as recommended by the Councillors' Commission at their meeting held on 25 January 2018.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 At their meeting held on 25 January 2018 the Councillors' Commission considered the following issues which required changes to the constitution. A summary of these issues and the specific recommendations are set out below.

1. PLANNING PROTOCOL

- 2.2 The Commission are recommending an additional provision in the planning protocol requiring the Members of committee who seek additional information to approach the relevant Business Manager or Case Officer where they would otherwise be minded to seek deferral.
- 2.3 It is suggested that the additional provision in the protocol could be added as item 15 with the consequential numbering thereafter being amended accordingly.
- 2.4 The suggested wording of the relevant provision would be as follows:-

"Heading 15 – Deferral

- 15.1 *Members should not seek to defer consideration of any item put before the Planning Committee unless there are clear and demonstrable reasons for doing so such as a relevant planning issue arising for the first time not having been previously considered and needing further investigation.*
- 15.2 *Where a member might otherwise be minded to seek deferral of an item by reason that they wish to seek clarification on a particular issue, consider that further material information is required on a particular matter or for any other substantial reason, they should seek to obtain such clarification or additional information from the relevant Business Manager or the relevant Case Officer at least two hours prior to the commencement of the Planning Committee meeting."*

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council amend the Planning Protocol for Members on dealing with planning matters as set out above.

2. UPDATES TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION STRATEGY

- 2.5 The Commission are recommending updates to the Councils' Financial Regulations and Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy.
- 2.6 Both the Councils' Financial Regulations and Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy were due for review in July 2017. Due to the change in Business Manager, this did not happen at that time, but has now been completed.
- 2.7 There are minor changes in both documents which clarify definitions and roles and responsibilities. Copies of the updated Financial Regulations and Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy are shown at Appendix A and B.

RECOMMENDATION

That the updated Financial Regulations and Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, as attached as Appendices A and B to the report be approved.

Background Papers

Agenda from the Councillors' Commission meeting held on 25 January 2018.

For further information please contact Nigel Hill on Ext 5243.

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